Introduced by Senator Cogdill

February 27, 2009

An act to amend Section 20131 of the Public Contract Code, relating to public contracts. An act to amend Section 501 of the Streets and Highways Code, relating to transportation.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 532, as amended, Cogdill. Contracting: counties: purchasing agents. State Highway Route 201.

Existing law gives the Department of Transportation full possession and control of all state highways. Existing law describes the authorized routes in the state highway system and establishes a process for adoption of a highway on an authorized route by the California Transportation Commission. Existing law also authorizes the commission to relinquish certain state highway segments to local agencies.

This bill would authorize the commission to relinquish to the City of Kingsburg the portion of State Highway Routes 201 that is located within the city limits of that city under certain conditions.

Existing law, with regard to public works projects awarded by counties, imposes certain mandatory procedures in soliciting and evaluating bids and awarding those contracts. Existing law provides that counties that employ purchasing agents, as specified, may exempt the purchasing agent from those procedures (1) with regard to the employment of state-licensed independent contractors and the purchase of materials, furnishings, and supplies used in the construction or repair of public works estimated as costing not more than \$6,500, or (2) in counties containing a population of 500,000 or more, with regard to the

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purchase of materials and supplies used in the construction or repair of public works estimated as costing not more than \$3,500.

This bill would revise these provisions to instead authorize these exemptions where the estimation of cost is no more than \$20,000 or \$11,000, respectively.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: no-yes. State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

- 1 SECTION 1. Section 501 of the Streets and Highways Code is 2 amended to read:
- 3 501. (a) Route 201 is from:
- 4 (a)
- 5 (1) Route 99 near Kingsburg easterly to Route 63.
- 6 (b)

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- (2) Route 63 easterly to Route 245.
- (b) Upon a determination by the commission that it is in the best interests of the state to do so, the commission may, upon terms and conditions approved by it, relinquish to the City of Kingsburg the portion of Route 201 that is located within the city limits of that city if the city agrees to accept it. The following conditions shall apply upon relinquishment:
- (1) The relinquishment shall become effective on the date following the county recorder's recordation of the relinquishment resolution containing the commission's approval of the terms and conditions of the relinquishment.
- (2) On and after the effective date of the relinquishment, the relinquished portion of Route 201 shall cease to be a state highway.
- (3) The portion of Route 201 relinquished under this subdivision shall be ineligible for future adoption under Section 81.
- (4) For the portion of Route 201 that is relinquished under this subdivision, the City of Kingsburg shall install and maintain within the jurisdiction of the city signs directing motorists to the continuation of Route 201.
- SECTION 1. Section 20131 of the Public Contract Code is amended to read:
 - 20131. Counties that employ purchasing agents may:
- 29 (a) Authorize the agent to employ state-licensed independent contractors and purchase materials, furnishings, and supplies used

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in the construction or repair of public works estimated as costing not more than twenty thousand dollars (\$20,000) without the formality of obtaining bids, letting contracts, preparing specifications, and the other things required by this article.

- (b) In counties containing a population of 500,000 or more, authorize the agent to purchase materials and supplies used in the construction or repair of public works estimated as costing not more than eleven thousand dollars (\$11,000) without the formality of obtaining bids, letting contracts, preparing specifications, and the other things required by this article.
- (c) Authorize the agent to purchase or contract for medical or surgical equipment or supplies, or for professional services, for a county hospital without competitive bidding, so long as an appropriation for the costs of those purchases or contracts is included in the county budget.

As used in this subdivision, "medical or surgical equipment or supplies" means only equipment or supplies commonly, necessarily, and directly used by or under the direction of a physician and surgeon in caring for or treating a patient in a hospital.